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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Dr. Richard LaPehn, Pastor, Milton Presbyterian Church, Rittman, OH, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we pray for our Nation and her leaders. Forgive us for allowing unworthy dreams to be focused upon by many. Lord, do not let worthy dreams be muted by limited horizons. May our hope for an improved tomorrow never be dulled by the habits of today nor visionary words be dimmed by contentment with the present. Within this House, may our elected leaders recognize the dangerous temptation to speak merely colorless sentiments that will not result in lasting goodness, justice, or peace. Without fear of political ostracism or ridicule, may our leaders speak prophetic words of truth to benefit our lives and those of generations to come.

We praise You, our God, for the blessings of life in this Nation, where our representative democracy allows both shrill and faint voices to be heard.

Grant wisdom to our leaders as they chart a course for our future. May they dare to entertain valiant dreams for the betterment of their district and State, for the blessing of our Nation and world. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BOOZMAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND DR. RICHARD LAPEHN

(Mr. REGULA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, our chaplain today is the Reverend Dr. Richard LaPehn. He is a member of one of the first families of Ohio, tracing his heritage prior to 1800. And Ohio became a State, of course, in 1803. His parents, Donald and Rebecca, are both natives of Iowa, veterans of World War II, and after a career as a CPA and a homemaker, respectively, now live in Florida. His wife, Laura Miles LaPehn, is a national board certified teacher employed as an educator in Barberton, OH. Mrs. LaPehn is the daughter of Carl and Sharon Miles, a retired engineering executive and his wife a homemaker who both reside in Indianapolis, IN. Richard and Laura are the proud parents of two daughters, Samantha and Allison. Fortunately, the family is in the gallery today.

Reverend Dr. LaPehn serves as pastor to the very kind and caring members of the Milton Presbyterian Church. In addition, he serves the growing city of Rittman, OH, which, of course, is in the 16th District, as a member of the city council. That is kind of unusual for a pastor of a church to also be a member of a city council. It is my pleasure today to welcome our guest chaplain to the House.

TEACHER TAX RELIEF ACT

(Mrs. KELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor of the Teacher Tax Relief Act authored by my good colleague and friend the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP). I thank the gentleman for his leadership and strongly urge my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this important effort to expand and make permanent the teacher tax deduction set to expire at the end of this year.

America's teachers are depending on Congress to quickly pass this bill into law, and we must answer their call. Day in and day out, our teachers in New York's Hudson Valley spend remarkable time, energy and, yes, money from their own pocket to develop innovative and successful ways to motivate their students to learn. They are spending hundreds of dollars from their own paychecks to buy classroom supplies and learning materials ranging from pens and pencils to computer software programs. When teachers take such great initiative in their teaching methods, they should not be taxed on the money they are putting back into our classrooms to help our children learn.

As a former teacher myself, I urge this House to quickly pass the Teacher Tax Relief Act. Let us show our teachers we are behind their efforts to improve our classrooms. Do not leave our teachers in limbo. Let us make sure our teacher tax deduction is permanently in place before our teachers start preparing for their new classes this fall.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CORPORAL CHAD MAYNARD

(Mr. SALAZAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to pay tribute and recognize Corporal Chad Maynard. Corporal Maynard was killed in the line of duty

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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